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**BART STARR**

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**JAMES STEWART**

HOLLYWOOD DIAMANTAL

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NOBEL PRIZE IN PHYSICS

**HANK AARON**

ALL-TIME HOME RUN KING

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**DR. LEE A. DeBRIDGE**

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**DR. PAUL J. FLORY**

NOBEL PRIZE IN CHEMISTRY

**DR. JAMES C. FLETCHER**

PAST ADMINISTRATION OF NASA

**DR. WILLEM J. KOLFF**

INVENTOR, THE ARTIFICIAL KIDNEY

**DR. HAROLD C. UREY**

NOBEL PRIZE IN CHEMISTRY

**JOHN C. PORTMAN**

ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/DEVELOPER

**PAUL ANKA**

14 GOLD RECORDS

**N. ELTON TANNER**

FIRST PRESIDENCY, LOS CHURCH

**PAT OLIPHANT**

PULITZER PRIZE CARTOONIST

**DR. GEORGE E. PALADE**

NOBEL PRIZE IN MEDICINE

**RICK BARRY**

NBA'S MOST VALUABLE PLAYER

**IRVING STONE**

GEOGRAPHICAL NOVELIST

**MAJ. GEN. THOMAS STAFFORD**

COMMANDER, APOLLO-SOYLE MISSION

**JOHN WAYNE**

ALL-TIME BOX OFFICE CHAMPION

\*partial list. Each member is a past recipient of the Golden Plate Award.



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TO: Academy members and friends  
 FROM: Brian and Wayne Reynolds  
 SUBJECT: 1978 Banquet "Progress Report" #6

WAYNE R. REYNOLDS  
 Coordinator, Golden Plate Invitations

May 22, 1978

Announcing two more illustrious past honorees of the Academy who will assist in the 1978 presentation of awards at the Banquet of the Golden Plate on Saturday evening, June 24:

- Helen Hayes, Nyack, New York -- recipient of two Oscars.
- Stephen D. Bechtel, San Francisco -- Senior Director of his global construction empire.

...And several more 1978 guests of honor who will join us for the Salute to Excellence weekend "retreat" in Kentucky as recipients of the Golden Plate Award:

- Olivia de Havilland, one of the greatest stars in motion picture history -- member of an illustrious English family, this daughter of an international patent attorney was brought to San Francisco at the age of two, edited her high school yearbook, won an award for public speaking and a scholarship to Mills College based on her straight "A" record... appeared in school productions and "found herself torn between writing and acting"... created a sensation in a local production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and was catapulted into a long-term contract with Warner Brothers... became an "overnight success" in motion pictures... and was "particularly celebrated for the romantic adventure films in which she teamed with Errol Flynn"... "Captain Blood," "The Charge of the Light Brigade," "The Adventures of Robin Hood," "Four's A Crowd," "Dodge City," "The Private Lives of Elizabeth and Essex," "Santa Fe Trail" and "They Died With Their Boots On"... she earned five Academy award nominations, including one for her memorable role as Melanie in "Gone With the Wind"... voted as the greatest film of all time... and twice won the Oscar as "Best Actress" for her performances in "The Heiress" and "To Each His Own"... all in "a dazzling cinematic career that spans four decades."
- Gordie Howe, "Hockey's Living Legend"... hailed as "the greatest of them all" -- incredible 50 year-old superstar of the New England Whalers... who launched his major-league career in 1946 at age 18... dazzled the fans for an "unparalleled quarter-century" with the Detroit Red Wings... shattering every hockey record imaginable... including most games played (1687), most goals (786), most assists (1023), most points (1789), most all-star selections (21 years), and most points in the Stanley Cup playoffs (158)... in addition to being named the league's scoring champion and most valuable player a record six times... "meantime enduring 300 stitches on his face and numerous fractured bones"... he has continued to astound the sports world in recent years by teaming up with his two sons to capture the World Hockey Association championship... earning the vote of 500 sports editors, writers and broadcasters across the country as "the greatest player in the history of hockey."

A non-profit, tax-exempt organization, dedicated to the Inspiration of Youth--to raise their sights high; to excel in their endeavors--through the dramatic annual salute...at the Banquet of the Golden Plate... to Captains of Achievement from America's great walks of life and honor students from across the nation.

- Clark M. Clifford, "The Dean of Washington Lawyers" -- a railroad auditor's son who "practiced law back home in St. Louis for 15 years before moving to Washington...became one of President Harry Truman's most intimate advisers...on law, politics and foreign policy"...was "a principal architect of the Point Four program (which provided aid to undeveloped countries), The Truman Doctrine (which helped keep Greece from falling to the Communists), and of the modern Defense Department and Central Intelligence Agency"...also advised John Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson on foreign policy, but declined to join the Cabinet until 1968, when he became Secretary of Defense...and soon earned the reputation as a "one-man brain trust"...was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, "the nation's highest civilian honor"...returned to private practice as the "business ambassador to Washington"...establishing a "liaison between private enterprise and the growing federal bureaucracy"...and was hailed by Time as "The Democrat's Mr. Fixit"...["sound political sense and meticulous attention to detail are characteristic of Clifford and among the reasons he has been the trusted confidant to four Presidents. His imposing demeanor (a Washington lawyer once said that listening to Clifford was like listening to God) contrasts with his relatively modest background"]...he captured the nation's admiration with his superb counsel to Bert Lance..."still works full-time, earning an estimated \$1 million a year"...mostly from corporate clients...and is heralded as "tall, handsome, always beautifully attired, courtly and charming in the old-school Southern manner...one of the rare public figures, like John Kennedy, whose dazzling exterior does much to detract from the fact that he has a mind like a steel trap."
  - Steve Cauthen, 18-year-old jockey phenomenon from Walton, Kentucky...acclaimed by Newsweek and the world press as "Racing's Boy Wonder" -- chosen by Sports Illustrated as the 1978 "Sportsman of the Year"... ["this little boy who had sat up nights with his father, a racetrack blacksmith, studying racing films...worked summers at the track, mucking stalls, walking 'hots', staying around the starting gate; listening, learning, ingesting every nuance of race riding...getting up at 4 a.m. and, in the pitch dark, dress and go out to the barn and sit on a bale of hay, and for two hours, in the still pre-dawn silence that might only be disturbed by a train whistle, he would practice whipping. Alone, in the red barn, he learned to switch the stick from one hand to the other, to tag the horse precisely on the tailbone"]...after four years of hard work won his first professional race just after turning 16...went on to "accomplish more in a year than any jockey in history"... a record-breaking 488 winners for a purse total of over six million dollars...three times rode six winners in a single day...four times rode five winners on one afternoon...and scored an amazing 23 victories in a single week..."suffered a broken wrist and ribs, and cuts of the face and hands, when his mount broke a leg and fell"...nevertheless resumed his incredible streak to complete his historical year...earned the selection by the Associated Press, in its first ever tribute to a personality from the world of horse racing, as the 1977 "Athlete of the Year"...then culminated his spectacular achievements with his "triumphant return to his old Kentucky home"...where he thrilled a live television audience of millions with his brilliant race to glory at the famed Kentucky Derby...and two weeks later, in the Preakness, raced Affirmed to another exciting "down-to-the-wire" victory.
  - Debby Boone, "The recording sensation of 1977," Beverly Hills -- daughter of Pat Boone ("the all-American boy-next-door of the '50s, the man in white bucks who pitches milk, religion, and conservative politics with equal fervor")...heralded in a People cover story and by the national press, including The Washington Post rave: "a 21-year-old, church-going, Bible-believing Christian who neither smokes, swears, or drinks... exactly the kind of daughter her father raised her to be...the slender, blue-eyed Debby, whose clean-cut features greatly resemble Pat's, has become an even bigger success than her father"...she "exploded onto the pop music scene" last year with her first solo record..."You Light Up My Life"...a love ballad that was No. 1 record from October through the end of the year, sold four million copies, zoomed to the top of the singles chart faster than any other record...and stayed there longer...to become "the biggest hit of 1977"...earning her four Grammy nominations...for "Best Record, Best New Song, Best New Artist, and Best Pop Vocal Performance"... "the most prestigious awards given in the music industry"...truly a remarkable and history-making tribute to an extraordinary young artist and the "longest running, top-of-the-chart single in the last 23 years"...a smash hit that has "topped any single by the Big Three of that period: the Beatles, Elvis, and Pat himself."
- (She will receive the Golden Plate Award at the "Salute to Debby Boone" dinner/outing on Friday, June 23)

## 1978 Banquet Progress Report #6...

- The Reverend Jesse L. Jackson, Founder/National President of Operation PUSH...America's "most effective movement" towards "fulfillment of the dreams of young inner-city blacks"...Chicago -- a "jive-talking, street-wise, hustling, self-styled Country Preacher"...whose father was "a bellhop who shined shoes"...and mother "was a domestic"...he won a football scholarship as quarterback at North Carolina A&T...joined the civil rights movement when he was still in college...was involved in sit-ins as an undergraduate and president of his student government...surrendered his ambitions for a law degree to become a "disciple" of Dr. Martin Luther King...participated in the historic "march on Selma"...was on the cover of Time at age 27 ...recently electrified a TV audience of millions with his memorable appearance on "Sixty Minutes"...projecting himself as "a spectacular orator"...a "legitimate superstar on the American civil rights scene, a personality with a capital P"...firing the aspirations of his people as a "Black Moses": "Underneath the three-inch Afro, the handsome poker face, and the elegant simplicity of dress, Jackson, at his core, sees himself as a prophet. Prophet he may be, but a prophet tuned to the seventies, to the black anger and frustration of the inner city, to the need for some hope of escape. Jackson has found the key and, like the prophets of old, he's light-years ahead of his flock. He knows better than to wait for the waters to part, for the manna to come tumbling into his lap. His gospel is a stern one: Sacrifice leads to greatness. His battle cry, oft-repeated: 'Nobody can save us from us for us but us'."
- Hanns Kornell, Founder/President of Hanns Kornell Champagne Cellars, St. Helena, California -- saluted recently by The Wall Street Journal in a front page essay as "a stocky, hard-working emigre from Nazi Germany who started in this country 38 years ago with next to nothing," the story of his "rise to pre-eminence in his chosen field reads something like a rags-to-riches novel": After a year in the concentration camp at Dachau (where his father eventually died), he arrived in England, was almost interned as an unfriendly alien, finally got a job as a bottle-washer, saved enough to go to the USA, was unable to find work in New York, hitch-hiked to California with \$2 in his pocket, worked briefly at a gas station, then got his first job as a champagne maker in the US...finally "took his savings and a \$3,000 loan to establish his own champagne business, leased a small winery for \$100 a month and there, with one employee, eked out a meager living, bottling by night and selling by day...going door-to-door to San Francisco hotels, restaurants, and shipping lines, literally peddling his champagne by the case out of his panel truck"...and today, "still painstakingly making champagne by the traditional French method of fermenting each bottle individually, a skill he learned as a boy in Germany"...he has "become a legend" in the Napa Valley...an "old-world craftsman" who is one of America's most distinguished wine makers.
- Dorothy Kelly, Pan American World Airways stewardess, Fitzwilliam, New Hampshire -- courageous heroine who recently became the first recipient of the United States Department of Transportation's "highest award for bravery"... "distinguishing herself above and beyond the call of duty by risking her own life" to save passengers and crew members in the fiery Canary Islands ground collision of two 747 jet planes that killed 581 persons in the "worst disaster in aviation history"...her citation read: "After the crash...amid the fire, explosions and flying debris...and despite her own head injuries and a broken arm...Kelly was able to crawl out of the plane through the gaping hole in the side of the fuselage, and minutes later she saw the pilot, dazed and kneeling down, near one of the airplane's engines. With complete disregard for her own personal safety, she took him under the shoulders and dragged him to safety just as the engine exploded into flames... then repeatedly returned to the burning wreckage to assist injured passengers and crew members. Her quick thinking, heroic action, and obvious concern for her fellow man reflect the greatest credit upon herself and Civil Air Patrol."

On behalf of the entire Academy, we express our appreciation for the special cooperation by several members -- including Judge John J. Sirica, Nicholas F. Brady, Harry A. Merlo, and Jack Valenti -- who personally were involved in the presentation of Golden Plate guest-of-honor invitations to those new 1978 awardees announced in this "progress report" #6.

On the attached page, we are proud to present the roster of 40 national champion honor students -- the greatest number in Academy history -- who will be among the 350 honor youth participants at Owensboro...and who will each receive the "Golden Eagle Award for the Promotion of Character Education."

May 14, 1978

THE SUNDAY COURIER AND PRESS—EVANSVILLE, INDIANA

# Young Reynolds lives lifestyle few even see

Those people who are somewhat overwhelmed by the number of celebrities and top government officials the American Academy of Achievement is able to bring together each year for its annual Golden Plate Awards dinner are running in fast company.

"We were at the White House not long ago, and they were amazed at the number of people we bring together," says Wayne Reynolds, whose father, Brian, originated the academy. "They wanted to know how we do it."

This year, for example, the June 24 dinner at the Executive Inn Rivermont in Owensboro, Ky., will bring together such notables as Attorney General Griffin Bell, CIA Director Stansfield Turner, FBI Director William Webster, actress Helen Hayes, comedienne Carol Burnett, civil rights activist Jessie Jackson, Watergate Judge John Sirica and Dallas Cowboy Coach Tom Landry, to name only a few.

Past honorees include Dr. Jonas Salk, Stevie Wonder, Willie Mays, James Stewart, Alex Haley and Edward Asner.

Some pretty heady company, in short, especially for a 21-year-old aspiring attorney like Wayne Reynolds.

But Reynolds, who has been assisting his father in the coordination of the annual awards since he was 15, says rubbing elbows and dealing on a day-to-day basis with the nation's elite hasn't left his head swimming. He says it simply has given him a first-hand appreciation of a lifestyle most people only read about.

"I've met most of the greats from around the world," he says matter-of-factly. "I just appreciate a different world than the average person realizes."

Reynolds says he respects the celebrities for the things they have accomplished, which is why they are recognized by the academy. Most are not only interesting, he says, but friendly, as well.

"We don't honor the people as 'winners,'" he says, "but as people who represent the top of their field and as an inspiration to the nation's young people."

Wayne first helped his father, and thus began dealing with celebrities on a regular basis, when he was 15 by working on the invitations to the awards dinners.

Since then, he also has edited the academy's annual yearbook, taken over



Wayne Reynolds

While Wayne has met scores of celebrities, some have had a greater impact on him than others.

A graduate of UCLA with a degree in economics, Wayne now is a first-year law student at American University in Washington, and he says it's not just a coincidence that "I was most impressed with Louis Nizer, Leon Jaworski, and, of course, Judge Sirica."

Despite his law career, Wayne continues to work long hours for the academy,

but he says it's not the chance to meet so many famous people that makes his work gratifying.

He says it's the knowledge that the young honorees of the academy are inspired by the celebrated older achievers. "That's what it's all about for me," he says.

For that reason, Wayne says he just might take up the academy's directors on their standing offer to have him take over for his father if and when he retires.

the coordination of the Golden Plate dinner and helped line up sponsors for the hundreds of teenagers across the country who are honored, as well.